

Johnson City Comet

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FOY A. VAUSE, Manager
W. M. BEASLEY, Editor

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Three Months	\$1.00
One Month	\$.45

Communications to receive attention must be signed by the writer. Address all communications to Johnson City Comet.

Resolutions of Respect, Memorials, Cards of Thanks and like communications charged at five cents a line. Church Notices, Lodge Notices, etc., gratis.

Do not good roads in season, which is all the time.

That absence certainly was not on Colonel Roosevelt's tongue.

How much is two ounces of bread? The food administration says it is enough.

County republicans will have a short, sharp campaign, and may the most men win.

Lord Northcliffe needn't worry; we are not taking German peace talk at all seriously.

The best time to advertise is every day except Monday; we don't publish on that day.

Isn't it about time the weather man was being investigated as a friend of the knacker?

Raise more food crops and conserve more of those raised, and thus the war will be won.

This is certainly the farmers' day of prosperity, and most of us rejoice with them in their good times.

Up to date we don't know if any church-less war is in the offing.

There are some people who fight purposes only in this country, who are getting theirs on the quiet.

Patriotic citizens are requested not to build homes at the present time, and most of them will heed the advice.

We like to be kept busy, but the jobs Dr. Garfield, Mr. Hoover and Senator General McAdoo have are almost too strenuous for even our sake.

And the farmers are also getting ready for a somewhat spring drive, that is calculated to produce the greatest crops in the history of the country.

The secretary of war is still trying to perform the work of a baker in the matter of those charges against the administration's war preparations.

If we could move the country over to France for a period this old war would not last long. Getting men and supplies across is the real big proposition.

In the stress of other matters, very little news is coming out of Mexico these days, which proves we always have something for which to be thankful.

An investigation of the tax assessment of big corporations will not increase the tax income of the city, but it is a mighty good way to start in that direction.

If the heatless Mondays are necessary we will have to continue them, and we believe Dr. Garfield knows more about the needs of the situation than we do.

You may be a modern Oliver Twist, but two ounces of bread is all you will get with your meals at the restaurants and hotels. Crying will not get you any more.

Making Washington's birthday a heatless day should prove popular, despite the fact that we have already had many enforced holidays. It will be a fitting celebration of the anniversary of the "Father of the Country" to help along in the making of fuel in winning the war.

TAX ASSESSMENTS IN JOHNSON CITY

Paying taxes always has and always will be regarded by the average man or corporation as one of the most irksome of burdens and that is the strongest reason why taxation should be made as equitable as possible. When a small firm or an individual knows that large and influential corporations are getting off for a minimum of their real taxable value it makes the burden of taxation all the harder to bear.

For this reason the board of aldermen are to be especially commended for its expressed intention of investigating the low valuation placed on several of the largest corporations in the city, and when it is known that the Washington County

Gas Company is valued on the tax books at an absurd sum of \$6,000 and the Tennessee Eastern Electric Company succeeded this year in getting its valuation reduced from \$30,000 to \$12,000 it does not seem that a great deal of investigating will be necessary, unless the committee goes into the matter of determining the why of such ridiculously small valuation of these big properties. It looks to one on the outside looking in that there might be found something akin to collusion somewhere in such a situation.

Already there has been called to our attention a number of matters which would appear to show that there is altogether too much influence wielded by money and the power of money in this town and that the "inner circle," or a coterie of influential business men here, has too great a control over the industrial and business life of the town. This is a condition that will tend to kill any town and has already, from the best information the writer has been able to obtain, injured the growth and development of Johnson City. One incident, coming under our personal observation since coming to Johnson City, was the telephone prohibition passed by the Chamber of Commerce at a big dinner, which was so ably exposed by Mr. James O. Lewis. The spirit of the "public be damned" seems to govern when those who have the money and the power and influence of money at their backs desire to "put something over."

The everyday, average, working citizen of any town or city has rights and it is well enough to give those rights and privileges thorough consideration when any move affecting the town or city is contemplated. Under a democratic form of government the people sometimes take a notion to enforce their rights in a manner not always agreeable to the great and mighty. As a beginning the three corporations the valuation of which the committee was named to investigate might be made to pay something akin to their just share of taxation to keep up the city and carry it forward to a larger and better development, and then other things should be inquired into by those having the power and authority to enforce the right.

THE SOUTHERN PRESS

If asked who was the busiest person in America today we should at once point to the war flax—New Orleans States.

If you inspect the belts the men wear you are not apt to discover any evidence of tightening up. There are quite a number of men who would be enthusiastic for war if it were not for fasting, fighting and taxes.—Houston Post.

The Deutsche Tages Zeitung reports that Germany is experiencing a severe shortage of cattle fodder. And cannon fodder, though not quite so scarce, is beginning to show distinct signs of weariness and faintness of heart.—Savannah News.

A lot of quarreling is going on over the question of whether Latin and Greek should have as prominent a place in the schools of the future as they have now. And a much bigger quarrel is going on over the question of whether or not the whole world shall speak nothing but German.—Savannah News.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

She (superstitiously)—I should never propose on a Friday; it's unlucky.

He (technical)—Not always. I once knew a fellow who did, and the girl refused him.—Exchange.

An old farmer lay dying. The minister was sent for and prayed at his bedside. Then, at the last minute, the sick man rallied. "Ah, my dear," he said to his better half, "it may be I'll be spared to you yet."

The old wife frowned and said grimly: "No, no, George, you're prepared and I'm resigned. Die now."—London Opinion.

SOLDIER HOME NEWS AND COMMENT

THE GIRL BEHIND THE LINES

When you have run into the big bill And are pretty near a "stiff" Someone comes behind your bed. Someone stills your aching head. It's the girl with the chart. The girl to cure your ills; The girl behind the lines.

Then you're glad you're at the "base" Just to see her smiling face, And you don't care if you rot If you just stick to that cot. It's the girl dressed in white, The girl that's always right; The girl behind the lines.

As your bones become corrected, Your heart becomes affected. When the doctor says you're well You're feeling just like hell. It's the girl with the chart. The girl with your heart; The girl behind the lines.

Then you go back to the trenches And it's not for pains and wrenches That you wish a "fifty-seven." Would knock you into heaven; It's the girl who was your boss, The girl who wore the red cross; The girl behind the lines.

—HARRY HURST.

Home Mess Hall the Finest

A gentleman who claims to have visited the mess halls of the various National Soldiers' Homes asserts that the Mountain Branch has the finest of any; that it is the best appointed, ventilated, lighted, heated and has more conveniences established than any of them. He also avers that the meals are served with wonderful dispatch, comparing favorably with the well-regulated conditions established in some of the army prominent hotels.

The same restrictions in food is exacted here as in the other Homes. Wednesday, February 13th, the new Victory Bread will be introduced. This bread is to be prepared according to a formula designed by the government and is made up of a combination of different cereals. Those who have given much study to this subject claim the restrictions placed on food is going to result in great benefit to the American people and eventually return great profits in the way of healthfulness and economy in the cost of living that was ever a need.

The dimensions of the dining hall are 215 feet 12 inches and 87 feet in depth, affording a capacity for 1,120 persons. There is only one space taken to the kitchen and 500 persons at a time. The dining room is of the excellent military conditions which prevail at all times.

In the making of the Victory Bread twenty per cent of the mixture is corn meal and rolls made from this has little or no corn taste. The difference between the mixed flour bread and the entire wheat bread as to nutrition value is said to be very slight. Where white corn is used the bread has about the same color as the all-wheat bread. It is claimed for this Victory Bread that

NEW AND SECOND HAND SHOES FOR SALE CHEAP AT QUALITY SHOE SHOP ON ROAN STREET

I now have on hand several pairs of Second Hand Shoes for men, large sizes and small ones too, also New Shoes that I have REPAIRED AND ARE ONLY SLIGHTLY DAMAGED. That I will sell at a bargain for the next few days. Call and see them. You will be surprised at the price I will see them to you.

QUALITY SHOE SHOP
C. T. CADIEU, Proprietor
114 Roan Street Near Market St.

EAT AT PARDUE'S DAIRY LUNCH

Get What You Want. See It Cooked

EVERYTHING READY FOR INSTANT SERVICE

We have arranged a Lunch Counter with Stools all around so you can sit down and be waited on. Our Hot Table keeps everything hot for quick service.

YOU SAVE MONEY

Boston Baked Beans, 5-10c	and Milk.....10c
Early June Peas.....5-10c	all kinds, per cut, 5-10c
Boiled Cabbage.....5-10c	Chops, per cut, 20c
Sauer Kraut.....5-10c	St. Steak.....30c
Cold Slaw.....5c	St. in and Porter.....60c
Irish Potatoes, any style.....5-10c	France Fried Potatoes 15c
Sweet Potatoes.....5-10c	Weiners, per order.....10c
Corn Bread.....5c	Oatmeal and Milk.....10c
Corn Fritters, Syrup and Butter.....15c	Rice and Milk.....10c
	Corn Bread and Milk.....15c

This is only a partial list. We are prepared to serve any thing on the market.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COME AND EAT WITH US

TO TAXPAYERS

By order of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen all taxpayers are hereby notified that 1917 municipal property taxes will become delinquent on March 4th, 1918, and that interest and penalty will be added after that date.

Please pay promptly and avoid the rush.

CITY OF JOHNSON CITY,
R. C. WARREN, Treasurer.

Safe Profitable Convenient

You can get \$7.00 each year on every \$100.00 you have, if you invest in our

7 Per Cent Preferred Stock

Dividends payable quarterly, 14 per cent, every 3 months. Let your idle money work for you.

The Bristol Telephone Co.

They Say There is a Gas Shortage.

They Say There is a Coal Shortage.

But we have all the Gas you can use and a limited supply of Coke at \$7.50.

TELEPHONE 260 TODAY

Washington County Gas Company

Service First—Profit a By-Product

Carolina Clinchfield & Ohio Ry

In Effect September 2nd 1917—Eastern Standard Time

NORTHBOUND.

9:00 a. m. daily, for Cincinnati, O., Fordtown and Kingsport, Tenn., Waveross, Va., Tenn. Speers Ferry, St. Paul and Dante, Va., and Elkhorn City and Louisville, Kentucky.

9:00 a. m. daily except Sunday for Cincinnati, O., Ashland, Catlettsburg, Jenkins, Louisville, Louisa, Paintsville, Pikeville and Shelby, Ky.; also Charleston, Huntington and Kenova, W. Va.

5:15, daily, for Fordtown and Kingsport, Tenn., Waveross, Va., Tenn. Speers Ferry, St. Paul and Dante, Va.

SOUTHBOUND.

11:45 a. m. for Erwin and Unaka Springs, Tenn., Toecane, Burnsville, Pensacola and Marion, N. C., and Spartanburg, S. C.

6:50 p. m., daily, for Unicoi and Erwin, Tenn.

For definite and additional information apply at ticket office or to

CHAS. T. MANDEL

General Passenger Agent,

JOHNSON CITY - - - - - TENN.

MARDI GRAS CARNIVAL

Mess Hall National Soldiers' Home
FEBRUARY 12, '18

BENEFIT

Johnson City Chapter American Red Cross

Fun

Merriment

Frolic

Music by Band and Orchestra

Meet Your Friends Here and Join in The Fun

Gala Event of the Season

This Space Patriotically Donated to the Local Chapter of the Red Cross by The Johnson City Comet